

Counterintelligence for the 21st Century Conference

Friday, February 18, 2005--On 4-5 March 2005, the Office of the National Counterintelligence Executive (ONCIX) and the George Bush School of Government and Public Service at Texas A&M University will co-host a day-and-a-half conference on America's strategic counterintelligence policy at the Annenberg Presidential Conference Center in College Station, Texas. During the conference, Michelle Van Cleave, the National Counterintelligence Executive (NCIX), will present the broad outlines of the nation's counterintelligence strategy.

The Office of the National Counterintelligence Executive was created by Congress in November 2002 as part of the "Counterintelligence Enhancement Act." The NCIX is appointed by the President and serves as head of national counterintelligence for the United States Government. The mission of the NCIX is to provide strategic direction to the nation's counterintelligence efforts and to ensure the integration of the multi-faceted counterintelligence activities of the United States.

The conference, featuring panels consisting of prominent counterintelligence practitioners, policy makers, current and former federal law enforcement, intelligence, and Defense Department officials will feature discussions on a range of counterintelligence issues. Conference panelists include: Former Directors of Central Intelligence Robert Gates and James Woolsey; Admiral William Studeman, former Deputy Director of Central Intelligence and Director of the National Security Agency; Patrick Philbin, Associate Deputy Attorney General; Lisa Bronson, Deputy Undersecretary for Technology Security Policy and Counterproliferation at the Department of Defense; and Nigel West, world renowned intelligence historian and author. The participants will discuss the goals of counterintelligence; human, technical, and cyber-related threats from foreign intelligence; and the impact of the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004 on US counterintelligence policy. President Bush, 41st President of the United States, is scheduled to make welcoming remarks at the opening session.

As a special part of the conference, senior CIA counterintelligence officer Brian Kelley and intelligence historian H. Keith Melton will present a multimedia briefing depicting the operational tradecraft aspects of the Robert Hanssen espionage case. In addition, Mr. Melton will have for public display several technical devices Hanssen used during his years as a Russian spy.

The conference is open to members of the US Intelligence and Counterintelligence Communities, Texas A&M faculty and students, member of the media, and invited guests. If you are interested in attending or would like additional information, please visit bush.tamu.edu, www.ncix.gov, or call Brian Kelley, Director of Public Affairs for the National Counterintelligence Executive at (703) 682-4520 (briankz@ncix.gov) or Karla Stone, Director of Strategic Communications for the Bush School at (979) 862-8845 (kstone@bushschool.tamu.edu). You may register on-line at anytime at www.bush.tamu.edu/counterintelligence or by phone at (979) 862-7974. A \$150 fee covers admission to the conference, meals, and a private reception in the George Bush Presidential Library.